

## Message

**From:** Charmley, William [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=FB1828FB00AF42FFB68B9E0A71626D95-CHARMLEY, WILLIAM]  
**Sent:** 8/17/2018 5:31:16 PM  
**To:** Bunker, Byron [bunker.byron@epa.gov]  
**Subject:** FW: Update and Lab Visit by Acting Administrator Wheeler Tomorrow

Byron –

On the way out yesterday you asked me if Chris had sent an email to the OTAQ staff.

Below is the email Chris did send at about 3pm.

Thanks  
 Bill

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**From:** Grundler, Christopher  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 16, 2018 3:09 PM  
**To:** OAR-OTAQ <OAROTAQ@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** Update and Lab Visit by Acting Administrator Wheeler Tomorrow

Dear Colleagues:

I have just returned from a [REDACTED] **Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy**  
 [REDACTED] **Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy**  
 [REDACTED] **Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy** vehicle we rented averaged 26.1 mpg for the trip (EPA label value: 25 highway. Way to go fuel economy label team!). This trip was a reminder to me of how vast and diverse our country is, and that people and firms need a similarly diverse set of transportation choices and vehicles. It is always good to get out of the office once in a while!

As you all know by now, while I was away the Administration announced the long-awaited proposal on fuel economy and greenhouse gas emissions standards for light duty vehicles. This proposal has received, and continues to receive, a great deal of coverage and commentary in the media. I want you to know a few key facts. First, our cross office team from ASD, TCD, and TATD distinguished themselves throughout this difficult process with their professionalism, competence, and responsiveness. They responded to the many, many questions posed by our Assistant Administrator Bill Wehrum, and at his request conducted a thorough review and evaluation of the NHTSA technical analysis, upon which the proposal is based. They provided their professional and unvarnished perspective and technical analysis to our leadership and to the White House Office of Management and Budget. AA Wehrum has been very complimentary of our team's work and the support he has received to ready him for discussions with colleagues at the political level. Consistent with past practice for any EPA regulatory process, our comments that we made during the formal interagency comment process have now been made available to the public as part of the regulatory docket, as required by the Clean Air Act. The proposal marks the beginning of the public process; there are three public hearings planned in Washington, Detroit, and Los Angeles (dates TBD). The timing of final decisions in response to public comments, and the publication of a final rule, remains uncertain.

Our team was in a position to provide such a thorough review because of their outstanding work over the last few years preparing for the midterm evaluation, including extensive outreach, a rigorous benchmarking program in our laboratory (which continues), and the development of an updated vehicle modeling platform. This effort has produced a distinguished body of work that has been published in the peer reviewed literature, and presented at numerous SAE and

other forums. I consider this a major public service and a significant contribution to the body of knowledge on mobile sources and the environment. I could not be any prouder of this work and the effort that it represents.

I also want you to know that we had an opportunity to brief Acting Administrator Wheeler prior to the publication of the proposal. He kept his pledge that he made to the Agency staff in his first week, where he said he wanted to hear from the career staff before drawing any conclusions. We spent several hours with him describing the work the EPA team has done, as well as our significant concerns with the current proposal. We also took the opportunity at that briefing to invite him to the lab to see first-hand the work that happens here, and meet the people who do it. I am pleased to say that he accepted the invitation, and will be at the lab tomorrow for a tour and a brief overview briefing. For our Ann Arbor staff: if you are on duty tomorrow and interested in joining the Administrator for a brief question and answer session after he tours the lab, please join us in the lab conference room (rm 601) at 12:50. The Administrator needs to depart by 1:15.

I continue to be extraordinarily grateful for your service.

Chris

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